

PID - 123/63
2 October 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director/NPIC

FROM: Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

SUBJECT: Comments on Staff Study Presented by The Assistant
for Photographic Analysis, TCS 4428-63, "NPIC's
Role in Field Readouts"

1. PID withholds concurrence for the following reasons:

A. Although some people have offered for consideration the thought that NSCID #8 might authorize the Director/NPIC to establish overseas detachments from NPIC to perform PI readout - NO OFFICIAL OPINION has ever been so expressed. Others maintain that there is no such intent in NSCID #8. The official policy in regard to NPIC's overseas role is not known. This would have to be established before concurrence could be intelligently discussed.

B. Attachments C thru F appear to go far beyond the problem stated in the initial paper (TCS 4428-63) "To gain acceptance of NPIC's responsibility for field readout of overflights accomplished against national priority requirements (COMOR)". First, the responsibility must be ascertained before we seek to gain its acceptance. Second, there is a

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confound the issue and would require much disentangling and/or monumental coordination before recommendation made in the proposal for "immediate establishment and implementations" could be discussed, let alone effected.

C. Field readouts have been performed in the field apparently due to the need for intelligence of immediate interests to the Theater Commanders. The whole "time element" and "facilities" required by the state of the Art should be reexamined on the basis of 1963-65 versus 1957-59, as to the feasibility and value of adequate field readout. We seriously question the recommendation "That all missions accomplished in the Far East, wherein possible be readout at the field facility to provide expeditious dissemination of intelligence to field commands and headquarters and for continuity of reporting."

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